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**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

09/531,350

Examiner

Dwin M Craig

Applicant(s)

GREENBERG, STEVEN S.

Art Unit

2123

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 1-24-2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-18.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 3-21-2000 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☐ None    of the:
    1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
  6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
    - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
      - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
    - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),  
Paper No./Mail Date 1 sheet
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit  
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

## DETAILED ACTION

And

### NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE

1. Claims 1-18 are allowed.
2. Claims 19-22 are cancelled.

#### Examiner's Reasons for Allowance

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

2.1 The following limitations in combination with other limitations is neither anticipated nor made obvious by the prior art, "*wherein the buckets have no assigned order relative to each other*" in combination with "*the scheduled times are represented as real numbers*." The instant amendments to the claim language in combination with Applicant's arguments in the 1-24-2005 responses have been persuasive and the Examiner withdraws the 35 U.S.C. 103(a) rejections of the claims. Specifically the Examiner notes on page(s) 9 and 10 of the 1-24-2005 responses Applicant argued the "*non-order preserving*" nature of the current claim limitations as well as disclosing the enabling support in Applicant's specification on page 5 lines 1-5. Further, the Applicant argued that the *Ulrich* reference cited by the Examiner fails to disclose or make obvious the limitation of representing time by using a "**real number**" (*see page 10 of the 1-24-2005 response*.) Independent **Claims 1, 5, 14 and 16** are therefore allowed.

2.2 Dependent **Claims 2-4, 6-13, 15, 17 and 18** are allowed as they depend from allowed base claims.

2.3 Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the

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issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

**Conclusion**

**3. Claims 1-18 are allowed. Claims 19-22 are cancelled.**

**3.1** The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Modeling and Design Description of Hierarchical Hardware/Software Systems by C.W. Rose and M. Albarran discloses on page 426 both ordered and non-ordering operations.

U.S. Patent 6,208,954 discloses methods of scheduling event sequences, Figures 1-10.

**3.2** Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dwain M Craig whose telephone number is (571) 272-3710. The examiner can normally be reached on 10:00 - 6:00 M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kevin Teska can be reached on (571)272-3716. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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KEVIN J. TESKA  
SUPERVISORY  
PATENT EXAMINER